Listing of the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of assessing ~~the likelihood that~~ if a patient diagnosed with systemic lupus erythematosus but not neuropsychiatric systemic lupus erythematosus is suffering from neuropsychiatric systemic lupus erythematosus which comprises:
   a) obtaining a fluid sample from the subject;
   b) contacting the fluid sample with ~~an agent~~ a gamma enolase which forms a complex with an autoantibody to a protein comprising consecutive amino acids having the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:21 or 23, under conditions permitting any such autoantibody present in the sample to complex with the ~~agent~~ gamma enolase; and
   c) detecting the presence of any autoantibody-~~agent~~ gamma enolase complex formed in step (b);
   wherein the detection of autoantibody-~~agent~~ gamma enolase complex in step (c) indicates that the patient is ~~likely~~ suffering from neuropsychiatric systemic lupus erythematosus.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the fluid sample comprises sera, plasma, urine, saliva, synovial fluid, cerebro-spinal fluid, or lymph.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~agent~~ gamma enolase comprises ~~a protein comprising~~

consecutive amino acids having the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, or SEQ ID NO:24, or an immunogenic fragment thereof.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, wherein the ~~protein~~ gamma enolase or an immunogenic fragment thereof is labeled with a detectable marker.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the detectable marker is a radioisotope, a chromophore, a biomolecule, a fluorophore, a radiolabeled molecule, a dye, an affinity label, an antibody, biotin, streptavidin, a metabolite, a mass tag, or a dextran.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the detecting in step (c) comprises contacting the autoantibody ~~agent~~ gamma enolase complex with ~~a second~~ an antibody which binds to the autoantibody ~~agent~~ gamma enolase complex and is labeled with a detectable marker.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising determining ~~the~~ an amount of complex formed in step (b) and comparing such amount with a standard, wherein a greater amount of complex formed in step (b) than in the standard indicates that the subject is ~~likely~~ suffering from neuropsychiatric systemic lupus erythematosus.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~9~~ 8, wherein the standard is a fluid sample comprising sera, plasma, urine, saliva, synovial fluid, cerebro-spinal fluid, or lymph from a patient not suffering from neuropsychiatric systemic lupus erythematosus.

10. (Currently Amended) A method of assessing ~~the likelihood that~~ if a patient diagnosed with systemic lupus erythematosus but not neuropsychiatric systemic lupus erythematosus is suffering from neuropsychiatric systemic lupus erythematosus which comprises:

a) providing a solid support to which ~~an agent~~ a gamma enolase, which forms a complex with an autoantibody to a protein comprising consecutive amino acids having the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:21 or 23[[,]] under conditions permitting any such autoantibody present in the sample to complex with the ~~agent~~ gamma enolase, is bound;

b) contacting the solid support from (a) with a fluid sample from the subject;

c) removing any of the autoantibody which is not bound to the solid support; and

d) detecting the presence of autoantibody bound to the solid support,

wherein the detection of autoantibody bound to the solid support in step (d) indicates that the patient is ~~likely~~ suffering from neuropsychiatric systemic lupus erythematosus.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10 wherein the ~~agent is a protein~~ gamma enolase ~~comprising~~ comprises consecutive amino acids having the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, SEQ ID NO:24, or an immunogenic fragment thereof and wherein the detecting of the presence of autoantibody bound to the solid support is performed with an antibody labeled with a detectable marker which antibody binds to the autoantibody ~~is labeled~~

~~with a detectable marker~~.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the fluid sample comprises sera, plasma, urine, saliva, synovial fluid, cerebro-spinal fluid, or lymph.

13. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the detectable marker is a radioisotope, a chromophore, a biomolecule, a fluorophore, a radiolabeled molecule, a dye, an affinity label, an antibody, biotin, streptavidin, a metabolite, a mass tag, or a dextran.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, further comprising determining ~~the~~ an amount of complex formed in step (b) and comparing such amount with a standard, wherein a greater amount of complex formed in step (b) than in the standard indicates that the subject is ~~likely~~ suffering from neuropsychiatric systemic lupus erythematosus.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the standard is a fluid sample comprising sera, plasma, urine, saliva, synovial fluid, cerebro-spinal fluid, or lymph from a patient not suffering from neuropsychiatric systemic lupus erythematosus.

16. (Currently Amended) A diagnostic kit which comprises a container comprising ~~an agent~~ a gamma enolase which forms a complex with an autoantibody to a protein comprising consecutive amino acids having the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:21 or 23, which ~~agent~~ gamma enolase is labeled with a detectable marker.

17. (Currently Amended) The kit of claim 16, wherein the ~~agent~~ gamma enolase comprises ~~a protein comprising~~ consecutive amino acids having the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, or SEQ ID NO:24, or an immunogenic fragment thereof.

18. (Canceled).

19. (Currently Amended) A diagnostic kit which comprises a container comprising a solid support to which ~~an agent~~ a gamma enolase which forms a complex with an autoantibody to a protein comprising consecutive amino acids having the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:21 or 23 is bound~~, which agent is labeled with a detectable marker~~.

20. (Currently Amended) The kit of claim 19, wherein the ~~agent~~ gamma enolase comprises ~~a protein comprising~~ consecutive amino acids having the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, or SEQ ID NO:24, or an immunogenic fragment thereof.

21. (Canceled).